AQAA DAR COUNCIL ACTIVITY REPORT 20 February 1997

FAR/DFARS Cases Discussed:

97-009	Protests to GAO: GAO requested that the current version of the FAR be revised to conform with the revisions to GAO's bid protest regulations.	Agreed to final rule, as edited.
96-327	Reporting RequirementsEmployment of Veterans: Implements Sect. 8118, PL 104-208, which requires DoD to ensure that contractors are notified of the potential penalties associated with failure to comply with annual reporting requirements.	Concurred with CAAC recommendation to close case.
86-008A	Pay As You Go Pension Costs: Limits companies' allowable costs for pay as you go pension plans to amount actually paid in current accounting period. Currently covered by interim rule.	Agreed to proposed rule to address issues associated with interim rule.
97-007	Travel Reimbursement: Revises travel cost principle by increasing dollar threshold for requiring a receipt from \$25 to \$75. Makes FAR 31.205-46(a)(3)(iv) consistent with increased threshold recently established in Federal Travel Regulation (41 CFR 3-1-11.3(c)).	Agreed to proposed rule.
96-603	General Records Schedules: Revises the retention standards for routine procurement files.	Agreed with Cmte to provide comments to National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). No case needed at present. Case will be needed when NARA changes its regulations.
96-D029	Monitoring Contractor Costs: Allows the contract administration office to determine when Contractor Cost Monitoring reviews should be performed and eliminate annual plans and reports. DLA proposed deletion of all of DFARS 242.70 on 02/12/97. Services had requested extension of discussion to assess impact of proposal to delete all of 242.70 language.	Agreed to delete all of DFARS 242.70.
90-009F	Electronic Funds Transfer: Implements Treasury mandate to use electronic funds transfer for contract payments.	Discussed open issues with John Galbraith, Chair, Contract Finance Cmte. Scheduled for further discussion by DARC on 02/26/97.
95-013	Part 45 Rewrite: Organizes, streamlines, and makes user friendly FAR Part 45, Government Property, and associated clauses.	Draft proposed rule briefed by Bob Donatuti, OSD. Agencies/Services are to provide "show stopper" comments by 03/05/97.

NOTE: FAR Council will meet on 03 Mar 97 to discuss section 15.4 of FAR rewrite.